

I-I Lin (林依依)

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1985-1989: BSc, Dept. of Atm. Sciences, NTU

1989-1995: PhD in Remote Sensing, Univ. of Cambridge, UK

*1995-1999: Centre for Remote Imaging, Sensing and Processing,
National University of Singapore, Singapore*

2000-July 2004: National Center for Ocean Research, NTU/NSC

2004-> : Dept. of Atmospheric Sciences, NTU

Interests: Typhoon – Ocean Interaction

Air-sea Biogeochemical Interaction & Carbon Cycle

Remote Sensing



**Synergy of Multi-Advanced Remote Sensing for
Atmosphere-Ocean Interaction Research (SMART)**

What is the long-term variability of SST and subsurface condition in this MDR (Main Development Region)?

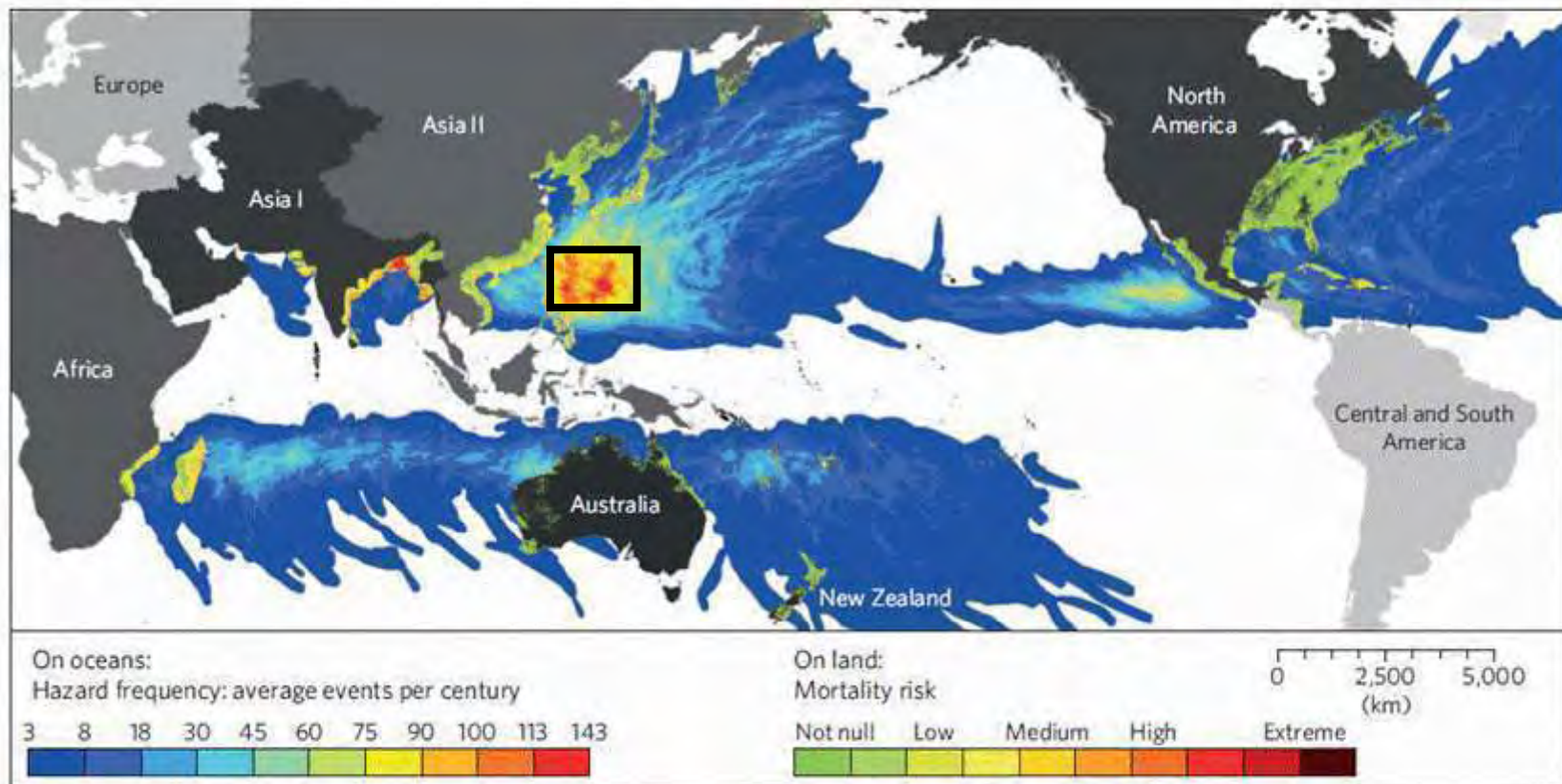
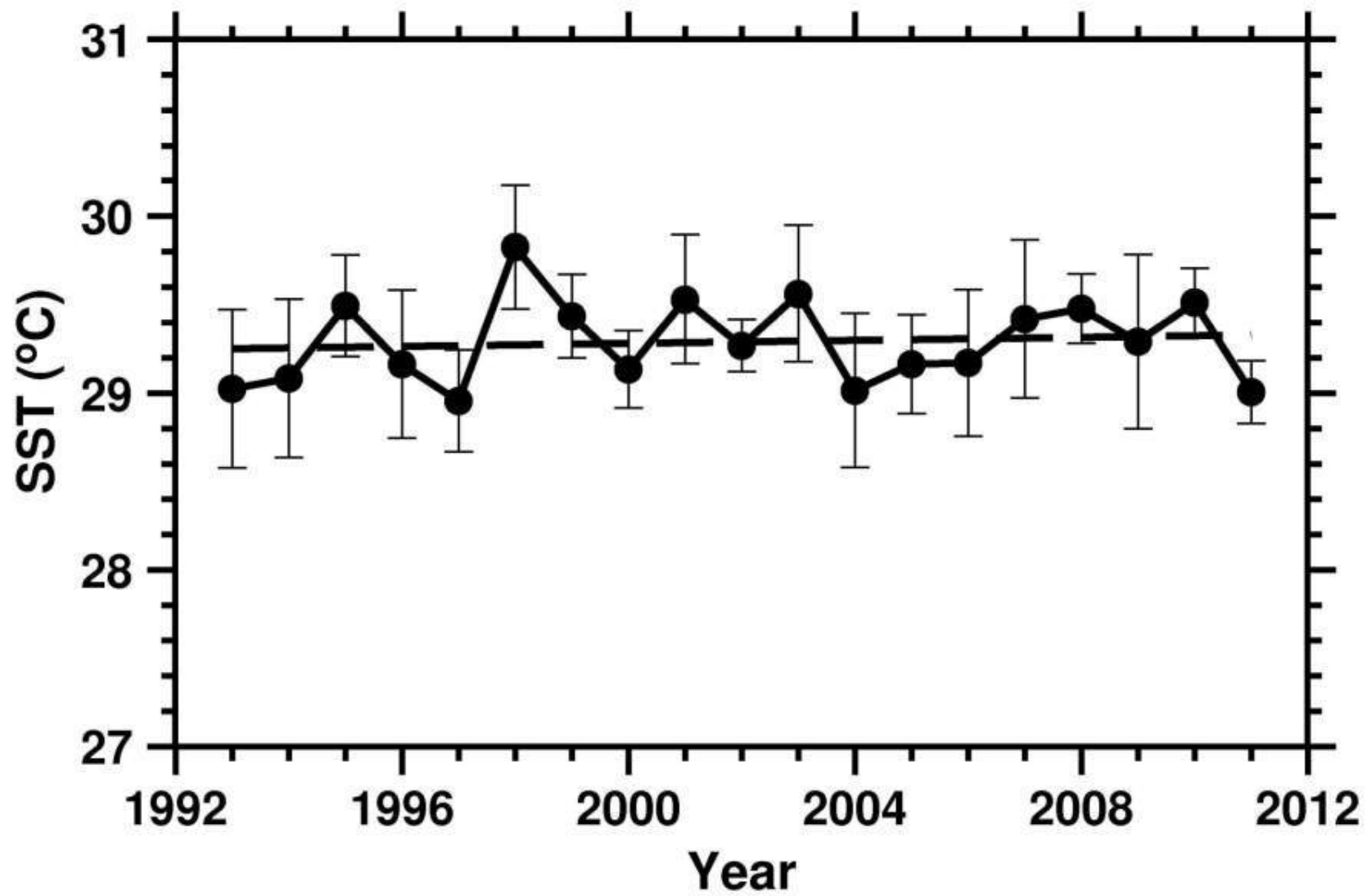
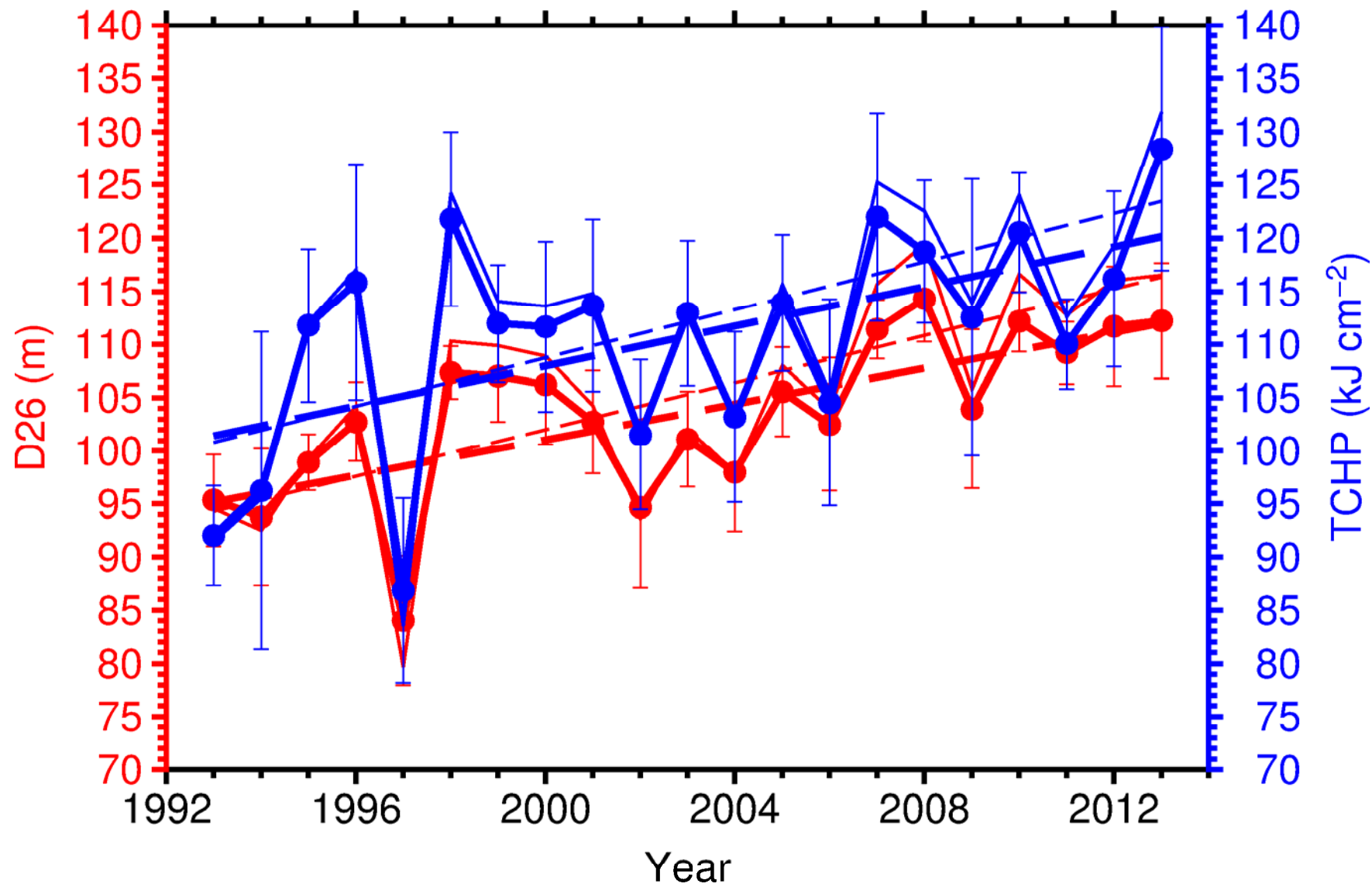


Figure 1 | Map showing distribution of hazard frequency and mortality risk from TCs for the year 2010. Estimates are applied to all pixels on a geographic grid. Mortality risk is categorized from low to extreme.







Novice Expert Sci. Teams

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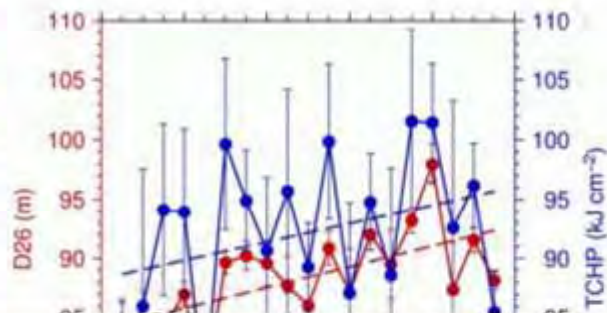
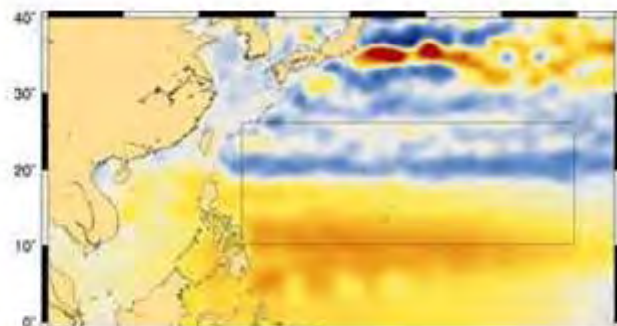
AA

Home / News / Images of the Month / 2013 / Aug. 2013: 20 years of typhoons

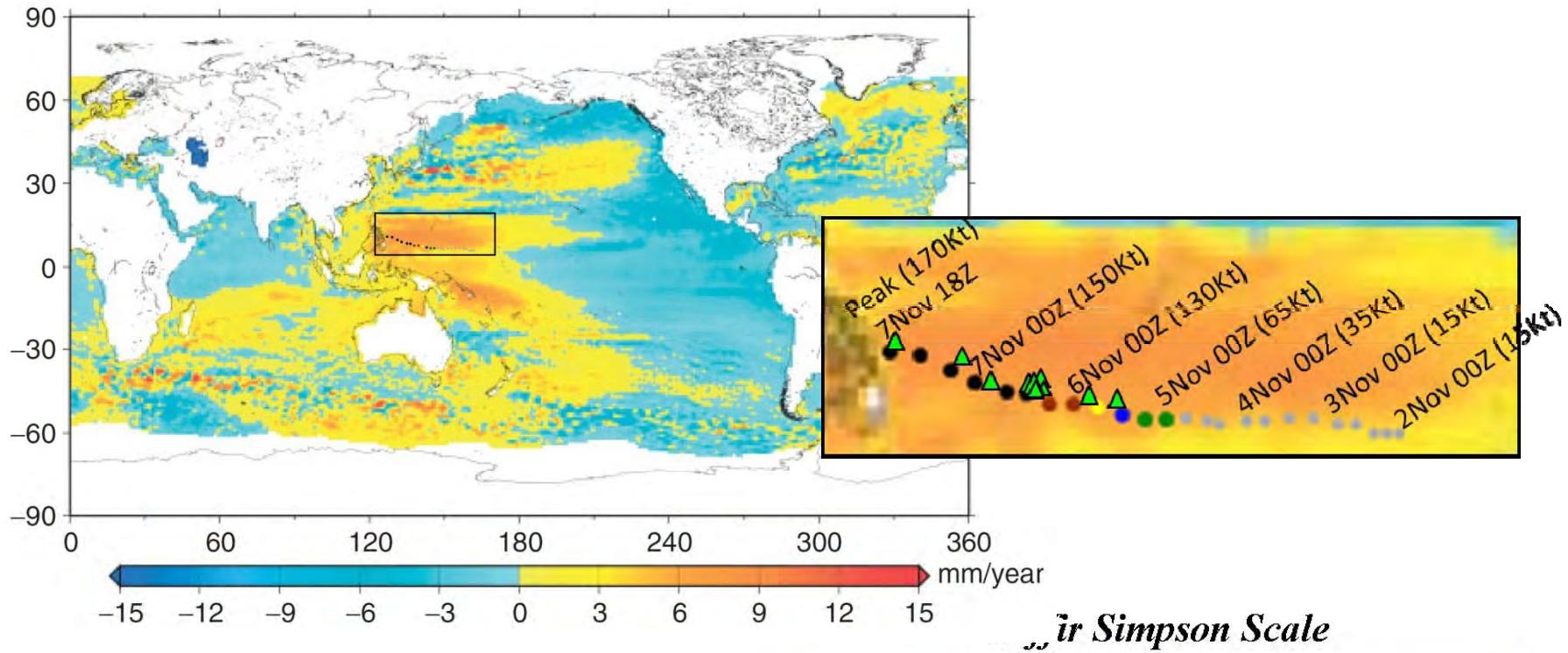


20 years of altimetry for typhoons

Image of the Month - August 2013

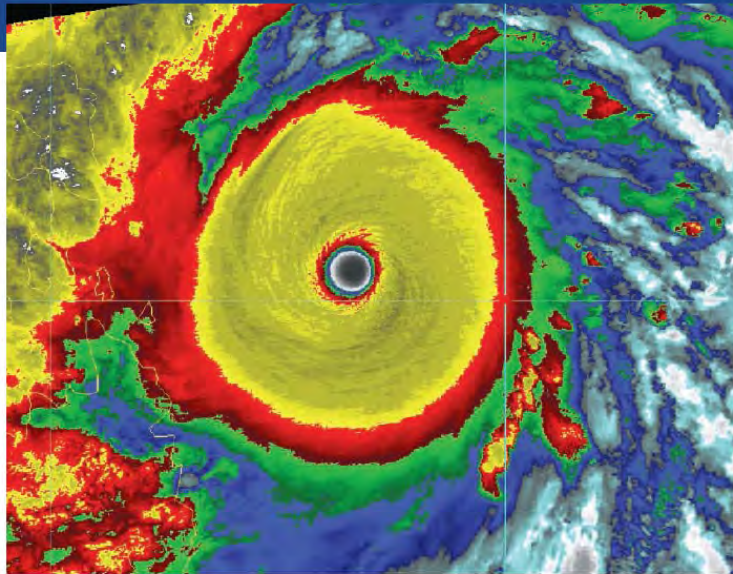


tent
20 years
s and wetlands
ground rising



Fatalities: 6,230 and 1,785 missing
Damage \$US1.5 billion

Category	Winds (knots)	
TD	< 34	
TS	34-63	
1	64-82	19 kts
2 (Sandy 2012)	83-95	13 kts
3	96-113	
4	114-135	22 kts
5	>135	
Cat 6 ? Megi 2010 Haiyan 2013	160 (170) kts	25 (35) kts



Feeding the monster. Unusually warm Pacific waters supercharged Haiyan.

CLIMATOLOGY

Clues to Supertyphoon's Ferocity Found in the Western Pacific

Tropical storm watchers agree that Haiyan was probably the strongest typhoon to make landfall when it slammed into the Philippines on 8 November, packing winds of up to 314 kilometers per hour. What gave Haiyan, which killed thousands and displaced millions, its deadly wallop?

Researchers think they have at least a partial answer to that question: unusually warm subsurface Pacific waters east of the Philippines. A related phenomenon—rising sea levels in the western Pacific—likely abetted Haiyan's devastating storm surge, which caused more deaths than the winds themselves.

Typhoons draw heat from the ocean for the energy that generates their winds. Typically, as a storm's winds increase, they stir up deeper, cooler ocean waters that temper its strength. This cooling effect "is nature's brake to stop typhoons from intensifying," says I-I Lin, a specialist in typhoon-ocean interactions at National Taiwan University in Taipei.

Drawing on data from satellite observations and Argo floats—

have documented a steady 2-decade rise in subsurface temperatures in the western North Pacific and a bulging warm water layer. The warmer and thicker that subsurface layer, the more heat is available to feed a storm. Oceanographers use a measure called the Tropical Cyclone Heat Potential (TCHP) to quantify the heat reservoir. Lin and colleague Iam-Fei Pun reported online on 3 September in *Geophysical Research Letters* that the TCHP where most cyclones develop in the western North Pacific has increased 10% since the early 1990s (see graph). While surface waters along Haiyan's path were only slightly warmer than normal, waters

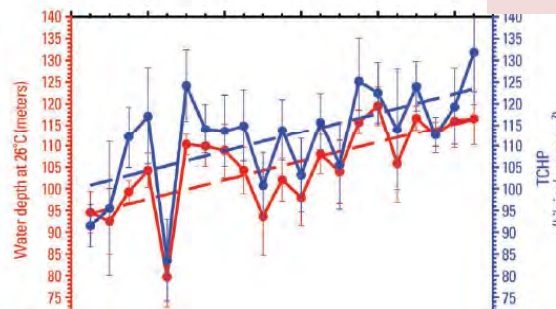
down to 100 meters were 3° warmer than the historical average. So as Haiyan churned up western Pacific waters, it drew more wind-intensifying heat, Lin says.

Other factors contributed to Haiyan's intensity. "The genesis location was very important," says Il-Ju Moon, a marine meteorologist at Jeju National University in South Korea who studies how ocean heat influences typhoons. Haiyan originated around 5° latitude north of the equator and was at about 10° when it hit land. "The ocean heat content is very high in that region," Moon says. And starting more than 3000 kilometers east of the Philippines gave Haiyan plenty of open water over which to strengthen.

Haiyan was a speed demon as well. "It was flying over the water" at 32 kilometers per hour, Lin says, nearly twice as fast as most typhoons travel. "Why it moved so fast is unknown," she adds. Researchers speculate that a fast-moving storm passes by before its churn pulls energy-sapping deeper, cooler water to the surface. In any case, "the warmer the subsurface layer, the faster the moving speed, the smaller the cooling effect," Lin says. "It's like a car without a brake, only an accelerator."

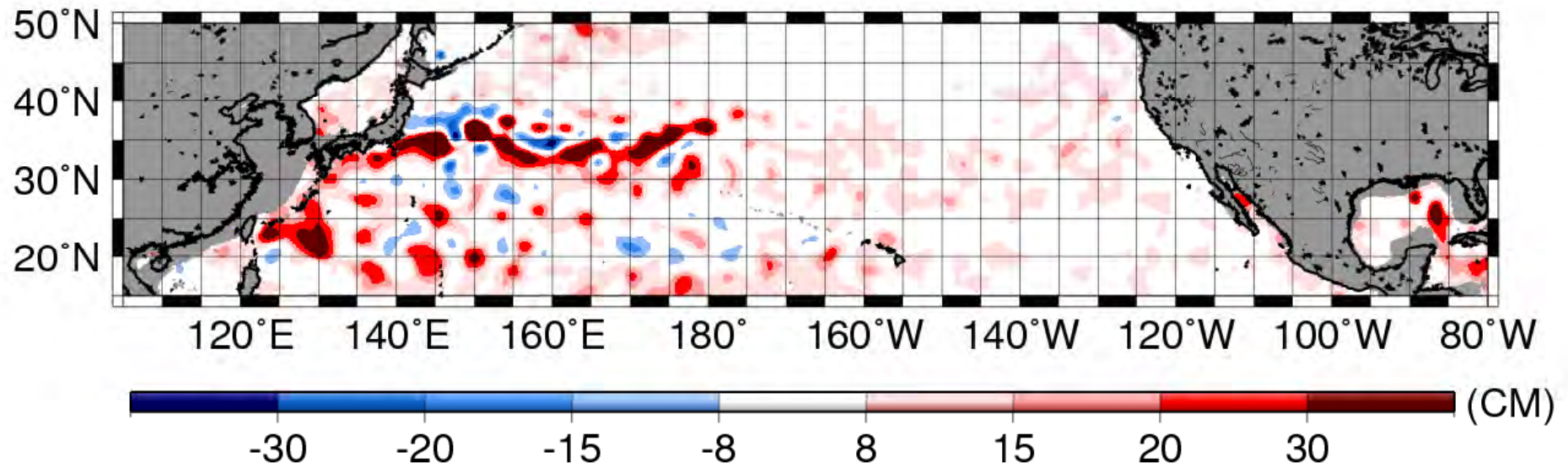
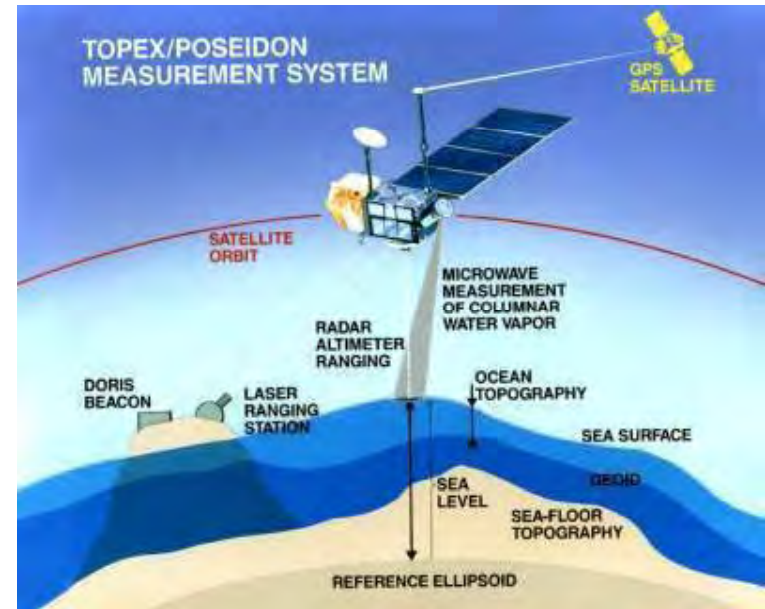
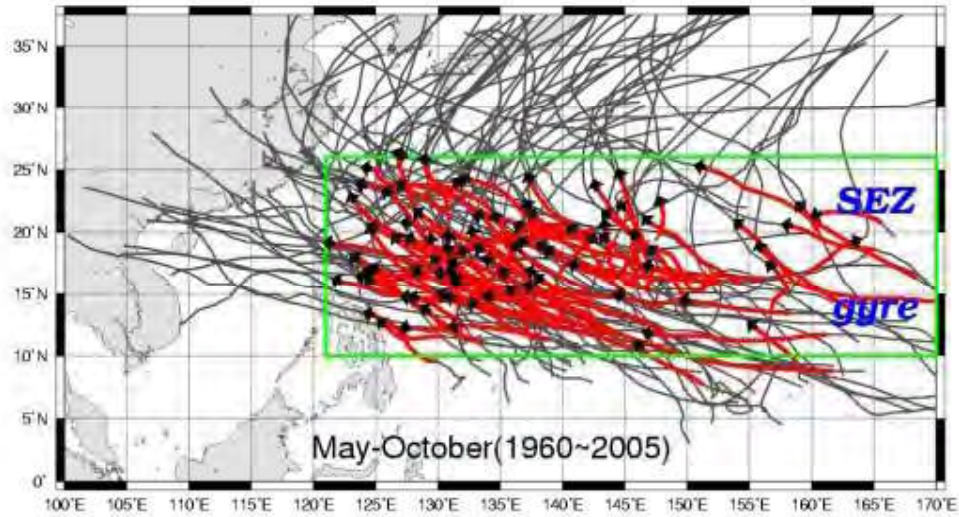
The warm bulge in the western North Pacific is the result of stronger easterly trade winds. This phenomenon also aggravated Haiyan's storm surge. In addition to blowing

Science
Vol. 342 no. 6162 p. 1027
29 Nov., 2013

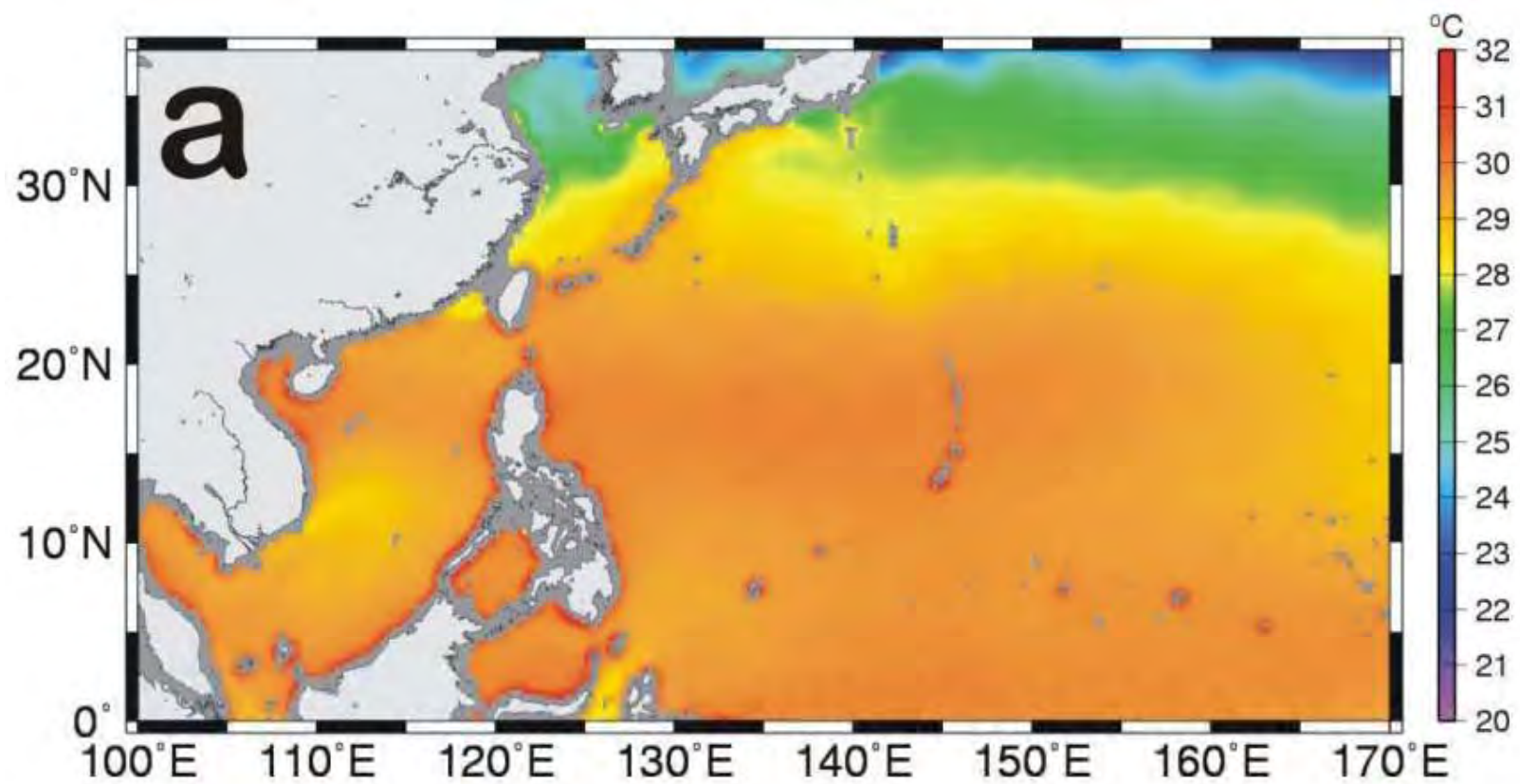


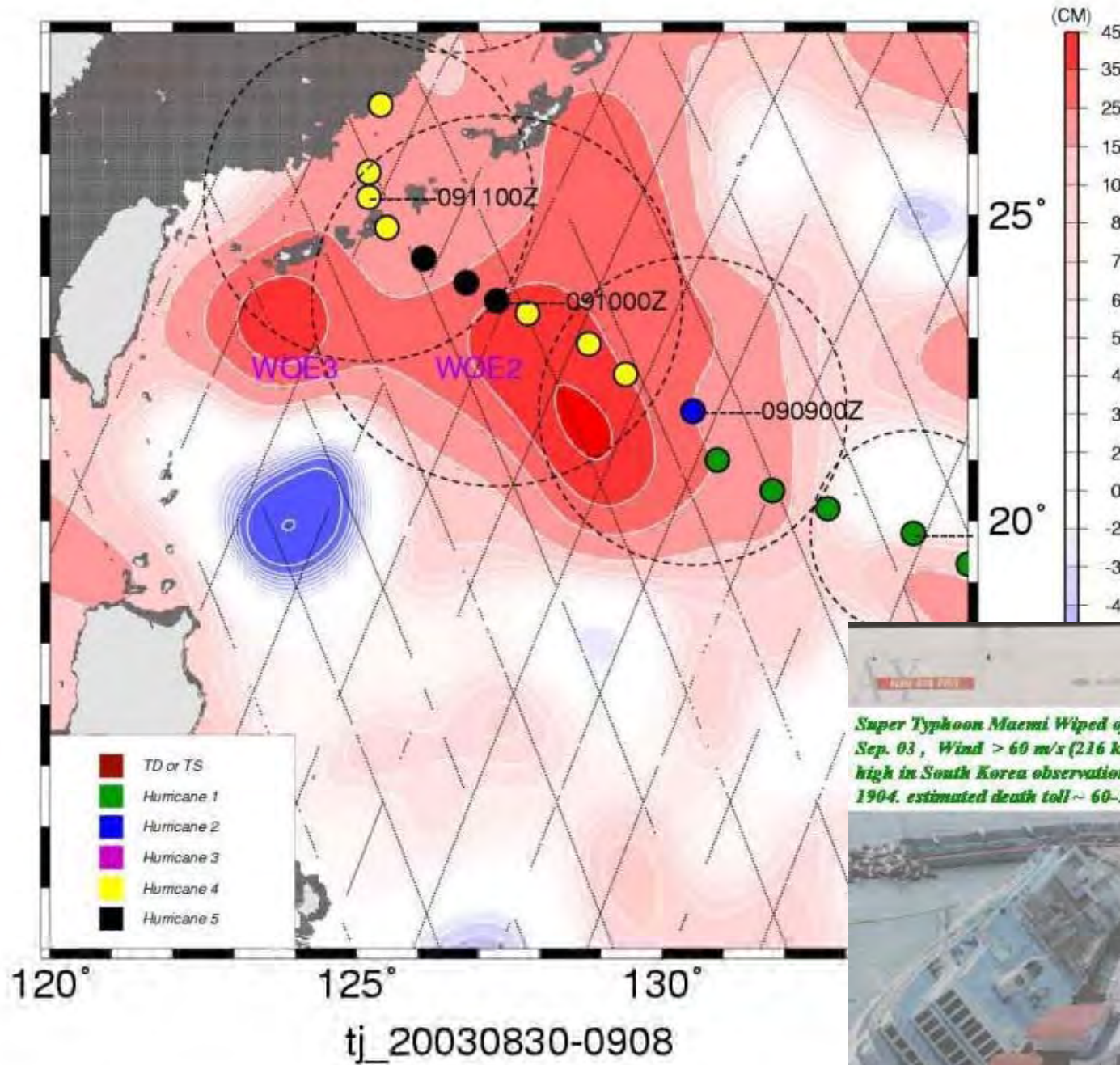
to the flood and inundation problems" in the Philippines, he says.

While many observers blame Haiyan's destructive power on climate change, tropical storm experts say there is little hard evidence of a link. "It is possibly natural variability," Lin says. Nor is it certain that the western Pacific has become a supertyphoon breeding ground. Although warmer subsurface

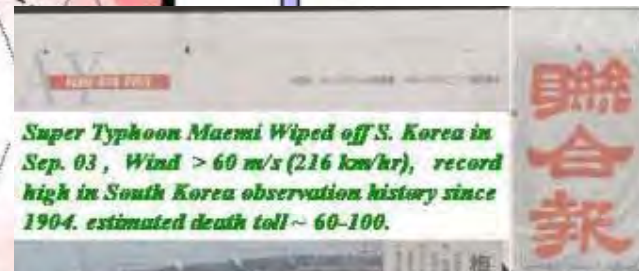


TOPEX/Jason-1 Sea Surface Height Anomaly 20030823-0902

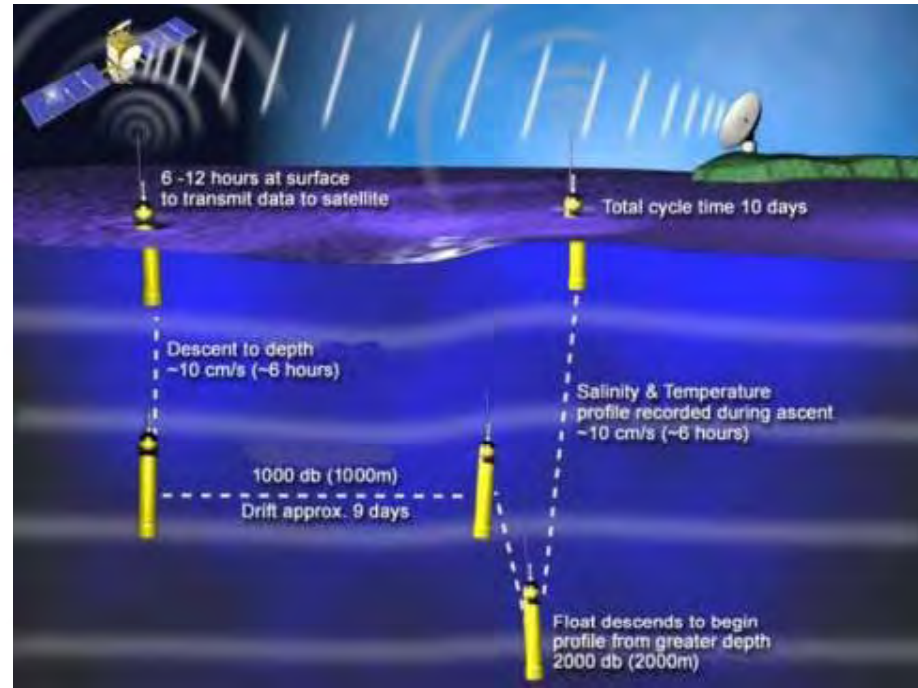
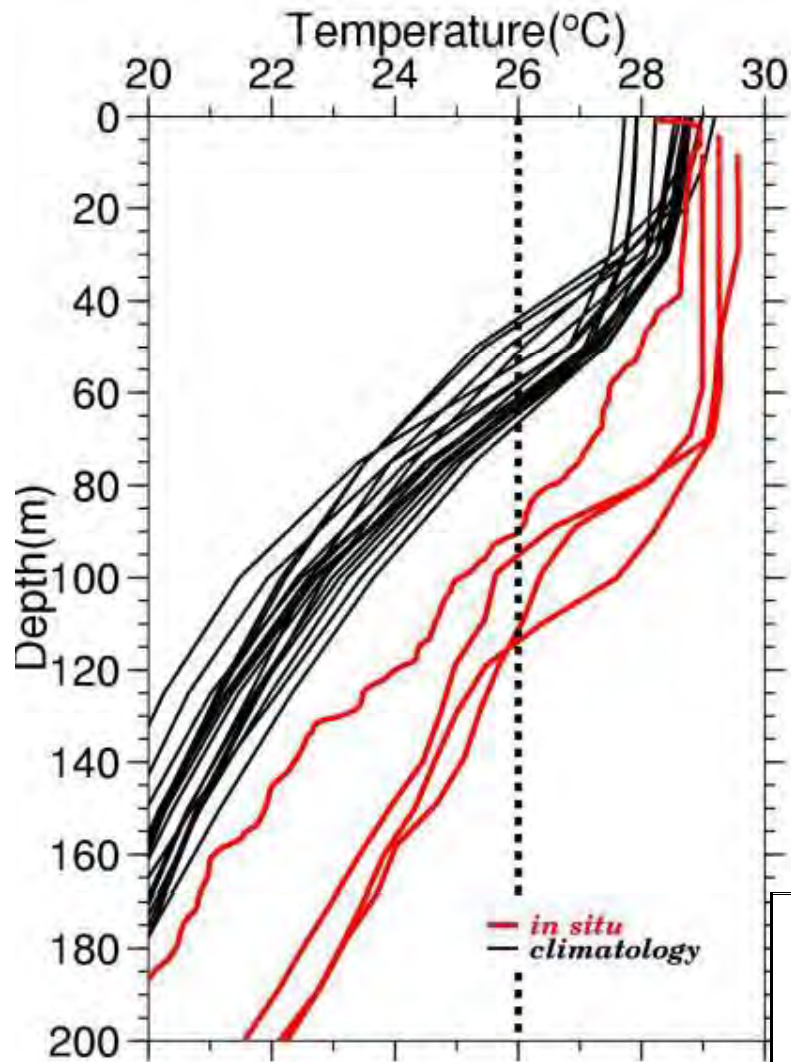




The most intense cyclone on earth in 2003



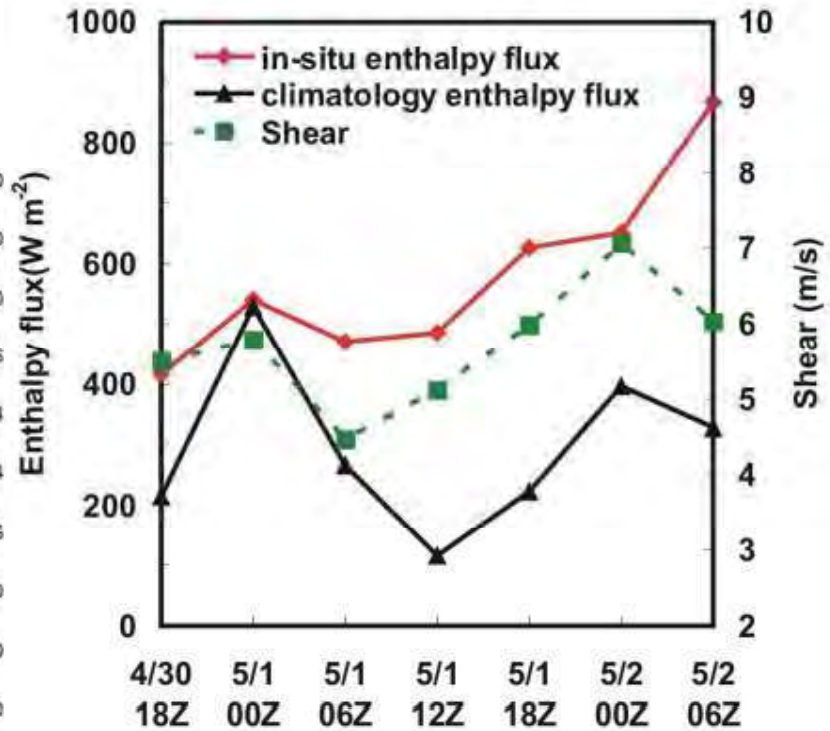
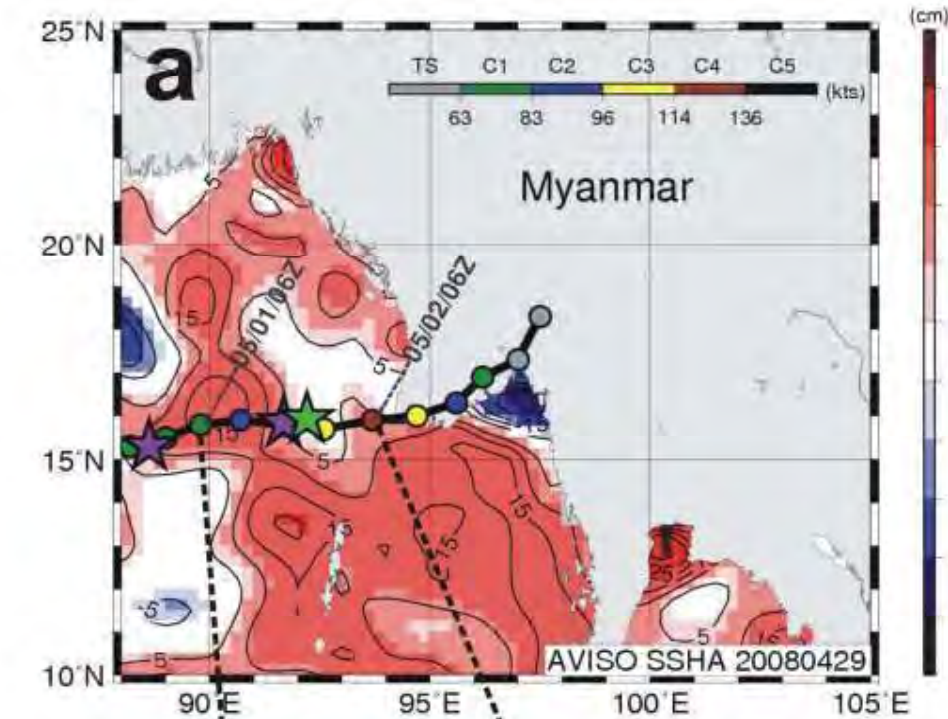
- Maemi 79 m/s
- Isabel 74 m/s
- The most intense super typhoon globally



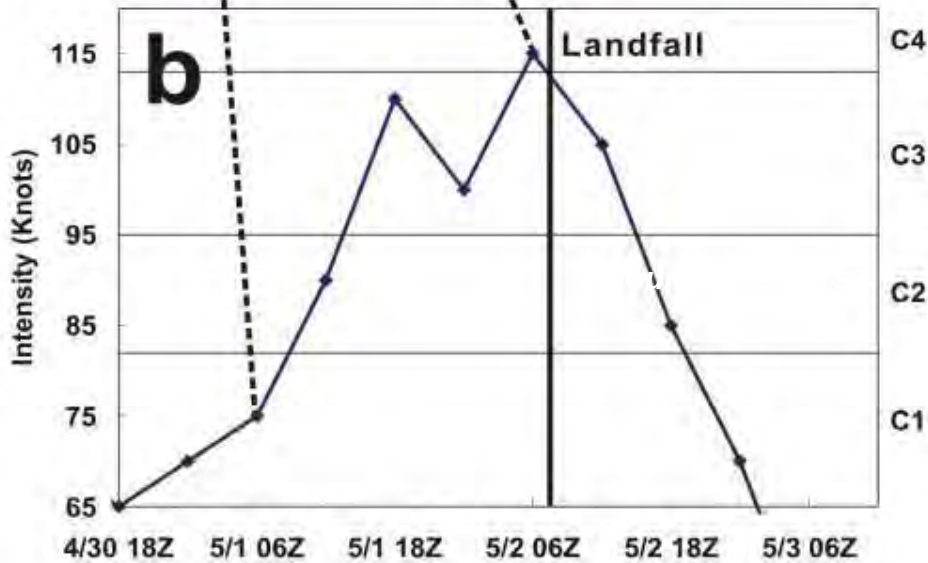
Lin et al. MWR 2008

<i>In situ profiles</i>	<i>In situ D26 (m)</i>	<i>D26 (m) Climatology</i>	<i>Deepening / shoaling of D26 (m)</i>	<i>% of deepening/ shoaling w.r.t. climatology</i>
Saomai (2000)	88	58	+30	+52%
Maemi_1	129	63	+66	+105%
Maemi_2	96	63	+33	+52%
Maon	109	63	+46	+73%
Average	106	62	+44	+69%

Killer cyclone Nargis (2008)

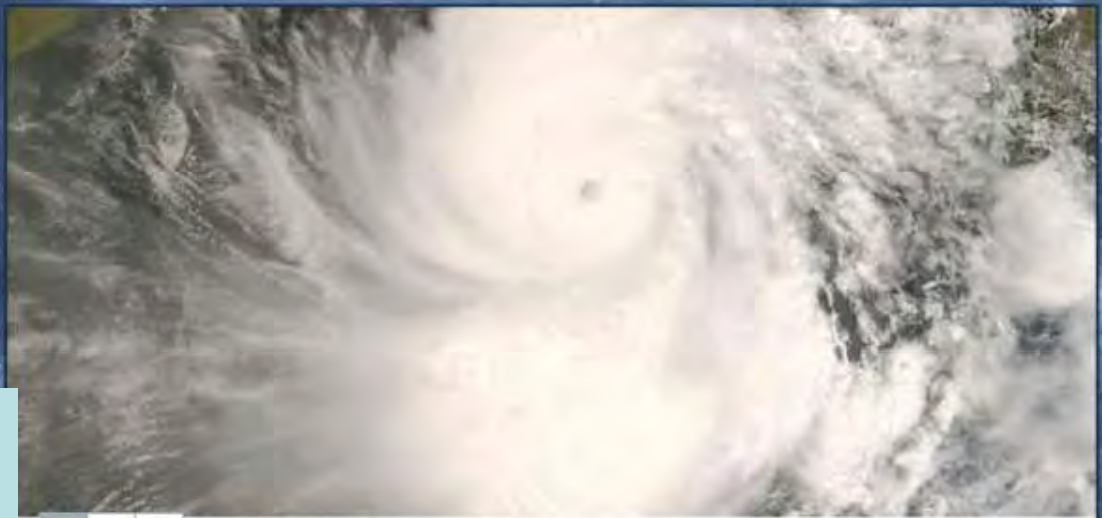


Catastrophic event (> 130,000 death toll):
RI took place just prior to landfall



Lin et al.
 GRL 2009





Recent highlight of Lin et al. (2009) by NASA, USA Today, Science Week

Press Release
26 Feb. 2009

1 2 3
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 A pre-existing condition stoked the sudden intensification of last year's Tropical Cyclone Nargis just before its devastating landfall in Burma. (Feb. 26)
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NASA Study Finds 'Pre-Existing Condition' Fueled Killer Cyclone
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網址 http://english.scienceweek.cz/headlines/id/94344
 Google Pre-existing Nargis NASA

PASADENA, Calif. - A "pre-existing condition" in the North Indian Ocean stoked the sudden Cyclone Nargis just before its devastating landfall in Burma, according to a new NASA/university study. The storm was the worst natural disaster ever and one of the deadliest cyclones of all time.

Scientists at the National Taiwan University, Taipei; and NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory, Pasadena, used satellite altimeters, measurements of ocean depth and temperature and an ocean model to analyze the ocean conditions before the catastrophic storm. Nargis intensified from a relatively weak category 1 storm to a category 5 storm before making landfall on May 2, 2008.

Lead author I-I Lin of National Taiwan University and her team found the ocean conditions Nargis followed a recipe for disaster. Cyclones thrive on warm layers of ocean water that are at least 26 degrees Celsius. As they traverse the ocean, they typically draw deep, cold water up to the ocean surface, a process that can even weaken them as they evolve. However, Nargis passed over a pre-existing warm layer of water that


 The latest News Headlines from the Science Week

Study Finds 'Pre-Existing Condition' Fueled Killer Cyclone
 26. 2 2009 (23:40)

(PhysOrg.com) -- A "pre-existing condition" in the North Indian Ocean stoked the sudden intensification of last year's Tropical Cyclone Nargis just before its devastating landfall in Burma, according to a new NASA/university study. The storm was the worst natural disaster ever and one of the deadliest cyclones of all time.

[Read the story at PhysOrg](#)